

Message Text

SECRET

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR KS KN YO
SUBJ: TRIPARTITE TALKS

REF: A. BELGRADE 3455, B. STATE 79917, C. SEOUL 3418

1. OUR CONCERN OVER ROLE OF YUGOSLAVS IN TRIPARTITE TALKS ON KOREA IS HEIGHTENED BY BERNARDIC'S STATEMENTS TO AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER (REF A) WHICH PRESENT SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT PICTURE OF DEVELOPMENTS THAN APPEARS IN OTHER RECORDS.

2. AS REFS B AND C INDICATE, IT WAS THE YUGOSLAVS WHO, TO OUR SURPRISE, INFORMED JAPANESE AND AUSTRALIANS OF THEIR INITIATIVE. THE INITIAL PRESS REPORT OF THE MATTER OCCURRED IN JAPAN, AND WAS ATTRIBUTED THERE TO EAST EUROPEAN SOURCES. THE ROK GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN AT LEAST AS UPSET OVER THE LEAK AS WE WERE AND WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD HAVE HOPED TO GAIN FROM INSTIGATING IT. THERE WAS NO NEED, MOREOVER, FOR "SOUTH KOREAN INTELLIGENCE" TO OBTAIN THE STORY, SINCE THE U.S. OFFICIALLY INFORMED THE ROKG OF THE YUGOSLAV INITIATIVE, AS HAD BEEN AGREED DURING TITO'S VISIT TO THE U.S.

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3. SUCH STATEMENTS BY YUGOSLAVS, IF REITERATED, WILL ONLY TEND TO HEIGHTEN DISTRUST OF HYPER-SUSPICIOUS KOREANS, WHO HAVE ALREADY FAR OVER-SCRUTINIZED TRIPARTITE PROPOSAL.

4. ON A RELATED MATTER, AS REGARDS THE NON-ALIGNED MEETING, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY FURTHER DETAILS

GOY CAN PROVIDE REGARDING THEIR CONCEPT OF "CONSTRUCTIVE
MANNER" FOR TREATMENT OF KOREAN QUESTION BY NAM.
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